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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY
Poland

SUBJECT
Port Information: Gdynia, approaches, controls, Berths, merchant vessels. H.O. chart no. 4928

DATE DISTRIBUTED
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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT #

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Pilot boarded incoming and departed outgoing, by use of a black, 30' diesel motor launch flying the "H" flag. The incoming pilot was Bochenek, who spoke poor English, and the outgoing pilot was Wajszczyk, who used good English. Both were about 50 years of age and offered poor service, in fact Wajszczyk left the ship just out of the inner harbor with the full consent of the Master. There was a light

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NAVY review completed.

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fog during entry, but the remainder of the stay was marked by clear to partly cloudy weather with an overcast sky mornings and evenings. The temperature [redacted] reached a low of around 20 degrees at night and a high of 30 during the day. [redacted] temperature ranged from 35 to 40 degrees and was considered to be a "heat wave." 25X1 25X1 25X1

5. Controls The boarding party, consisting of immigration and customs, was made up of four men, including the agent. Only the immigration representative carried a pistol. No muster was taken nor was a search made. Nothing was sealed. A sentry, wearing sidearms, was posted at the foot of the gangway. There were also some customs guards at the gate to the dock area [redacted] and they wore a "green" uniform. They were easily distinguishable from immigration personnel who wore a khaki uniform. No difficulty with customs was experienced. [redacted] 25X1 25X1

6. Harbor Craft The usual two large tugs were used in berthing and departing. [redacted] they were diesel, but was not positive. 25X1

7. Berth

a. Soundings at the berth [redacted] were stated [redacted] to be "deeper" than the depths indicated [redacted] Lighting on the quay was fair and the access roads were of concrete or rock surface. No firefighting equipment was seen in the vicinity of the berth. Water was available and in plentiful supply. The cranes on the dock were 3-5 ton electric portal cranes, operating on railroad tracks. Two 30-ton floating cranes were sighted and source stated they were very similar to "our Army cranes." In addition, three smaller floating cranes were seen. Sewerage was discharged overboard and garbage held on board. 25X1

b. Four gangs of 12 stevedores each were worked during the three shifts each day. They worked on eight-hour shifts and were given one hour off for the four meals per day. Their proficiency in handling cotton was considered to be "fair to good" [redacted] but the agent believed that the ship received exceptionally good service from the stevedores. Hand trucks were used to transport cotton into the warehouse where two electric fork-lift trucks stacked the bales. The entire cargo of cotton, 4,214 long tons, was discharged at the rate of 59.9 tons per hour. The agent stated the stevedores' pay rate was approximately one thousand zlotys per month, and [redacted] this wage was reflected in the poor dress, which included quilted cloth jackets. 25X1 25X1

c. A Baltona store representative called at the ship and presented a price list [redacted]

d. [redacted] 25X1

8. Shipbuilding [redacted] shipyard where a small ship of approximately 1500 tons was under construction on the shipbuilding way.

9. Naval Installations [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] sailors going in and out of the buildings. [redacted] the Merchant Marine School was still in operation.

10. Naval Vessels

a. A small PC or "patrol boat" with a single stack located close to the bridge structure exited the harbor and proceeded in company with source's vessel for a short distance. Identification was uncertain, but [redacted] 25X1 25X1

[redacted] the vessel was probably proceeding to the "submarine exercise area."

b. Agent stated [redacted] that the USSR had just given 25 small craft (presumably naval) to Poland. 25X1

c. [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] "training vessel - Coast Guard cutter type" [redacted] an "old frigate" was moored. In the vicinity [redacted] were 25X1

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located a large number of torpedo boats and several target rafts as well as a naval tug. Everything in this area appeared very old.

11. Merchant Vessels On entry into harbor [redacted] 500-ton Soviet tug with a "nice looking" sea-going barge in tow [redacted] 25X1
Polish, [redacted] and Soviet passenger ships dock. [redacted] a number 25X1
of large ships, the largest 10 thousand tons, were in the harbor and most of them were Polish.

12. Shore Activities A number of civilians with marked Mongolian features were seen on the streets. [redacted] the city and its facilities were in "ex- 25X1
cellent condition." Liquor and food, with the exception of vodka, are expen- 25X1
sive at the standard rate of exchange of 24 zlotys to the dollar [redacted]
[redacted] The women, all pick-ups, are plentiful and inexpensive. All of the
crew went ashore. A large number of military personnel were evident in town, 25X1
but the majority were officers.

13. Miscellaneous At shaded area, [redacted] was a large open dock [redacted]
[redacted] machinery and large cases which [redacted] contain electrical
equipment or machinery.
[redacted] all workers
seemed to be "just working." Agent, [redacted] 25X1
proffered the following information:

a. All mail for the ship would be delivered to him the day after the ship left.
b. The people think Poland is receiving no benefit from the cargo shipped from the US; they think the cargo is "going east," except in the case of cotton which is first made into cloth and the cloth is then shipped east.
c. For the first Christmas since the war, Santa Claus would come to Poland (it was always "Father Frost," the Soviet equivalent, before this year).

[redacted] 25X1

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